

REMARKS

Status of claims

Claims 5-8 remain in this application. Claims 5-8 are currently being amended. Claims 1-4 and 9-39 have been withdrawn.

The abstract has been amended to obviate the rejection thereof. The claims have been amended to obviate the informalities noted.

Claims 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Gerhard. Claims 7 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gerhard. Claim 5 has been amended to recite an air gap between the antenna and the material being measured. The Gerhard reference discloses the use of flexible sheets 12, 13 to define the space between conductive patterns 14, 15 and the substrate. Air pressure is used to prevent any air gap between these components. Thus, Gerhard fails to disclose or suggest the claimed structure.

CONCLUSION

In view of the amendments and remarks, it is believed that all claims are in condition for allowance, and it is respectfully requested that the application be passed to issue. If the Examiner feels that a telephone call would expedite the prosecution of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned at (508) 416-2475.

Respectfully submitted,

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